



Nez Perce N.F. **NEWS RELEASE**

United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Nez Perce National Forest
1005 Highway 13
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – December 3, 2007

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Winter Use of Grangeville-Salmon Road

Grangeville, Idaho – As snow begins to blanket much of Idaho's backcountry, many people are gearing up for winter outdoor activities. The Clearwater Ranger District would like to remind the public that the Grangeville-Salmon road (#221) south of mile marker 8, the Fish Creek loop road (road #2000 and #4600), and the southern half of the Hungry Ridge road (#309) are part of a popular groomed snowmobile trail system that offers a spectacular winter experience for many residents of the region. Cooperation from various user groups is necessary to preserve this quality snow trail system.

The roads listed above are groomed for snowmobile travel using machines maintained and operated under a challenge cost-share agreement between the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Idaho County, and the Forest Service. As of December 1 each year, only snowmobiles driven over snow are allowed on these roads to avoid potential conflicts with grooming activities and to protect the groomed surface. Use of other types of motorized vehicles on these roads during the restricted period (December 1 through April 1) is allowed by permit only.

This winter, one private party has been issued a permit to use ATV's on the groomed portion of the Grangeville-Salmon road for intermittent access to their private property on Pinnacle Ridge. This use will occur only when snow conditions are such that damage to the groomed snowmobile trail can be minimized or avoided. All other ATV and highway vehicle users are asked to honor the motorized vehicle restrictions on this route to preserve the continued exceptional snowmobile opportunity people have come to expect in this area.

Questions regarding the snowmobile trail grooming program and motorized vehicle restrictions on the Grangeville-Salmon road can be directed to staff at the Clearwater Ranger District office in Grangeville, Idaho, 104 Airport Road, or via telephone at (208) 983-1950.

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